

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7770

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT ELAB SOCI UR

SUBJECT: A STATE COMMITTEE GETS REORGANIZED

1. AUGUST 18 PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA PUBLISHED IDENTICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE REORGANIZATION OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR QUESTIONS OF LABOR AND WAGES INTO A UNION REPUBLIC STATE COMMITTEE FOR LABOR AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS. THE STATED REASON WAS TO "STRENGTHEN STATE CONTROL AND COORDINATION" IN THIS AREA. THE INCUMBENT OF THE EARLIER BODY, VLADIMIR GRIGOR'YEVICH LOMONOSOV, WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW BODY.

2. COMMENT. WHILE THIS ACTION MAY BE GREETED IN SOME QUARTERS AS JUST ANOTHER COSMETIC REORGANIZATION (AND IT MAY BE JUST THAT), THE QUESTION OF RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF THE LABOR FORCE HAS CHRONICALLY BEEN ONE OF THE NAGGING PROBLEMS OF THE SOVIET SYSTEM. IF THE COMMITTEE IN ITS NEW INCARNATION REALLY MEANS TO TACKLE SUCH STICKY PROBLEMS AS THE FLIGHT OF LABOR FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND THE DISPIRITED CONDITION OF THE LABOR FORCE IN THE CONSUMER AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES, IT HAS ITS WORK CUT OUT FOR IT.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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